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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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1. There are uranium mines in Czechoslovakia at Jachymov, Potucký (sic), Abertamy (N 51/K 60), Prebuz (N 51/K 40), Drmaly (N 51/F 02), Horní Slavkov (N 51/P 68), Příbram (N 50/L 53) and Boží Dar (N 51/K 61).
2. Test drillings for uranium are under way at Vrchlabí (O 51/G 55), Janské Lázně (O 51/G 65), near Česká Třebová (P 50/N 28) and near Znojmo. In Slovakia tests are being made at Pezinok (P 49/T 00) and Kamenica nad Hroncom (Q 48/X 17). These are all entirely new installations. The results at Vrchlabí and Janské Lázně have been very promising; the construction of mining installations and the extraction of the mineral are proceeding in the normal fashion. The installations were to be completed by the end of 1952.
3. Other seams of uranium richer than those at Horní Slavkov have been discovered on the Polish side of the Krkonose Mountains (Riesengebirge). The extraction of uranium has begun there.
4. Mine No. 9 at Příbram has been closed because the seam of uranium has been exhausted. Mine No. 12 has also been closed because it was flooded with water. However, since this is a very rich mine the work of emptying the flooded galleries has begun. According to Eng. Siliniec, the expense of mining at Příbram is very high. It is expected that the uranium there will be exhausted by about 1956.

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5. In May 1952 orders were given to begin using the materials remaining after the uranium had been extracted from the ore; even the small residue of pitchblende is to be utilized. The Slovakian mines, in contrast to those in Bohemia, are delivering almost unlimited amounts, but the quality of the mineral is not as good.
6. The Bratrstvi uranium mine is located about 800 meters north of the edge of the town of Jachymov to the east of the road from Jachymov to Bozi Dar. Another road, built of concrete in 1946, joins this road at the Bratrstvi mine and leads farther north to the Barбора and Sen President Gottwald, formerly the Sen Bozi, mines.
7. Important employees of the Bratrstvi mine are as follows: 50X1-HUM
- Eng. Silinic (fnu), director, Russian, [redacted]
 - Fedor Armanov, deputy director, Russian, [redacted]
 - Karl Kucera, mining engineer, a Czech, [redacted]
 - Vladimir Kuhlavi, mining engineer, [redacted]
 - Gibacek (fnu), mining engineer, [redacted]
 - There are five other mining engineers, [redacted] employed at the Bratrstvi mine. 50X1-HUM
8. 45 shock workers and prisoners at forced labor work in four shifts. There are 250 miners who work on the surface. 45 women and 60 prisoners work at forced labor in a fenced-in section.
9. Miners and laborers receive up to 12,000 Kcs. per month. The prisoners, the larger part of whom are political prisoners and 40% of whom are non-Czechoslovakians, only get paid if they overfulfill their assigned norms. However, they earn enough to be able to buy considerable at the mine's store. 50X1-HUM
10. The commander of the SNB guard detachment at the Bratrstvi Mine is Lt. Alois Siroky, [redacted] His assistant is 2d Lt. Oldrich Brabenec, [redacted] The StB detachment has 100 men armed with CZ.48/A sub-machine guns and two hand grenades apiece. The sentries in the towers have CZ.45 rifles. The StB do not do guard duty underground.
11. The mine has nine levels, the maximum depth being 880 meters. Each level has a mine railway plant with three Diesel locomotives. The ore is extracted with pneumatic hammers and mechanical chisels. Each level has 10 to 15 pneumatic hammers. Each shift digs 450 cartloads of ore; the carts hold 1.5 cu.m. apiece. [redacted] The ore is taken to the fenced-in section in baskets. 50X1-HUM
12. The fenced-in section includes a one-story building of masonry 40 by 200 meters in size which is painted with camouflage paint. There are three ore-crushing machines

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and three ball mills; the ore is carried from the machines by three conveyor belts along each of which are 10 to 15 workers who separate the pitchblende from the gangue. The pitchblende is then ground up and packed in wooden boxes, each weighing 50 kg. The ore from the nearby mines is also separated in this way in the fenced-in section at the Bratrstvi Mine.

13. 5,000 boxes daily are filled with pitchblende. The boxes are loaded and one truck convoy per day leaves to take them to the railroad station at Ostrov (N 51/E 70), where they are put in a storage space reserved for uranium. The pitchblende which leaves the mines contains up to 50% of uranium U-308. ²
14. One train per day is made up at the Ostrov station to carry away the uranium. Each train has 15 cars containing mineral of the best grade and 20 containing mineral of less value. Each train is guarded by an escort of 80 Soviet soldiers armed with sub-machine guns. The boxes are frequently loaded on the trains directly from the trucks by the drivers and their helpers. The loading is closely watched by Soviet guards who send the vehicles away immediately when the transfer has been completed. Only one vehicle at a time is allowed to enter the loading area. All Czechoslovak personnel working in the loading area are provided with special passes which they must show when entering or leaving. These men all belong to the Bratrstvi Mine and are assigned to the fenced-in section.
15. About 500 Soviet troops are permanently stationed in Ostrov and they are commanded by an infantry captain. Czechs are not admitted to the station or the storage areas.
16. Ore from the Bratrstvi, Elias I and No. 10 mines is loaded onto trains at the Ostrov station.

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Comment. Probably 5% of uranium U-238 is meant.

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